

Cooperative Marine Turtle Tagging Program

Annual Report
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Karen A. Bjorndal, Peter J. Eliazar, and Alan B. Bolten
Archie Carr Center for Sea Turtle Research
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611 USA
Tel: 352-392-5194
Fax: 352-392-9166
Email: accstr@zoo.ufl.edu

In April 1999, the management of the Cooperative Marine Turtle Tagging Program (CMTTP) was transferred from the Miami Laboratory of the Southeast Fisheries Science Center to the Archie Carr Center for Sea Turtle Research (ACCSTR) at the University of Florida. This report describes the activities and accomplishments of the CMTTP from 1 April 2001 to 31 March 2002.

Annual Activities of the CMTTP

1. We have maintained a web site for the CMTTP [<http://accstr.ufl.edu/cmttp.html>]. The web site includes instructions on how to obtain tags and applicators and all of the CMTTP documents:
CMTTP New Policy [request for payment and new tag return address and offer of reward]
CMTTP Requesting Tags and Data Policy
CMTTP Protocols for Handling, Tagging, and Measuring Marine Turtles
Recommendations for Activities Involving Brief Captivity with Non-Invasive or Minimally Invasive Procedures by L. H. Herbst and E. R. Jacobson

The web site also has the following two documents in Adobe Acrobat pdf format:

CMTTP Tag Request Form
CMTTP Tagging Data Form

2. We have continued this year to invest substantial time in cleaning up the computer files transferred to us. In particular, the FINDTAG and NEWTAG databases required significant effort. Many gaps in both databases have been filled as a result of substantial correspondence with CMTTP participants. As information became available or as information was found in the files, we were able to match the pit tag numbers with flipper tag numbers of individual turtles.
3. >From 1 April 2001 through 31 March 2002, we purchased 12,000 Inconel tags (style 681) and 40 applicators from National Band and Tag Company. The tags have a UF return address and offer of a reward.
4. >From 1 April 2001 through 31 March 2002, we distributed a total of 7700 tags and 65 applicators (Table 1). We received all required permits and project descriptions from each of these programs.
5. From 1 April 2001 through 31 March 2002, we received a total of \$4192.00 in payment for tags and applicators, and an additional \$844 is promised (Table 1). These funds have been deposited in the University of Florida Foundation / CMTTP account that we maintain to receive payments for tags and applicators.
6. Table 2 shows the responses that we have received from participants on the allowable use of tagging data by NMFS. If no "Allowable Use" category is checked by the CMTTP collaborator, we assume that these are "No additional use without permission" as stated in the CMTTP Requesting Tags and Data Policy.
7. >From 1 April 2001 through 31 March 2002, we received recapture reports for 505 sea turtles. Data were entered into the NEWTAG database, original taggers of the turtles were notified, and the individual reporting the tag was sent tagging information on the turtle and, if appropriate, a reward of \$5.00 per tag.

8. We continue to receive electronic tagging data files from some programs. These files have been converted to Access, and files from each locality for each project have been combined into one file. We plan to review how to improve the quality of these files to lessen the work involved in managing CMTTP databases.
9. We reviewed individually all hard copy data sheets that were submitted without an electronic file and entered all recaptures into NEWTAG. All original tagging records were filed after their numbers were entered into FINDTAG. The number of tagging programs that still only submit hard copy data sheets is significant. We plan to review how to encourage these CMTTP collaborators to submit their data electronically to lessen the work involved in managing CMTTP databases.

Table 1. Number of tags and applicators distributed from 1 April 2001 through 31 March 2002 with cost-recovery information. See Table 3 for organization codes.

Issue Date	Organization	Number of Tags	Number of Applicators	Cost	No funds available	Check Promised	Check Received
4/2/01	SCNR	100	1	\$88			X
4/2/01	EPCT	100	0	\$70	X		
4/9/01	GALV	400	0	\$280			X
4/17/01	MPAA	100	1	\$88	X		
4/30/01	DMRP	200	0	\$140	X		
4/30/01	SVAN	0	2	\$36			X
5/2/01	FWCC	100	0	\$70			X
5/7/01	VMSM	100	0	\$70			X
5/14/01	GASU	0	3	\$54			X
5/14/01	FWCC	400	5	\$370			X
5/14/01	SCNR	700	0	\$490			X
5/14/01	QURI	600	0	\$420			X
5/16/01	SCTY	200	1	\$158			X
6/8/01	GSML	500	0	\$350	X		
6/13/01	MMLB	300	0	\$210	X		
6/25/01	MDNR	100	3	\$124			X
6/28/01	CSBL	0	1	\$18			X
7/3/01	GSAF	0	6	\$108			X
7/9/01	CINC	200	0	\$140	X		
7/11/01	USVI	100	3	\$124		X	
7/11/01	MIAM	1000	20	\$1060			X
8/7/01	USVI	500	0	\$350	X		
8/9/01	BBIO	100	0	\$70			X
8/28/01	BOFT	0	5	\$90			X
9/5/01	REMS	100	0	\$70			X
9/28/01	WHOL	0	2	\$36			X
10/3/01	KARU	200	2	\$176	X		
12/18/01	FPCR	200	0	\$140			X
1/3/02	CMSC	100	0	\$70			X
1/3/02	CSBL	200	0	\$140			X
1/28/02	CULE	300	1	\$228		X	
2/8/02	JUNO	200	5	\$230			X
2/15/02	REMS	100	1	\$88		X	
2/21/02	REMS	100	0	\$70		X	
3/19/02	SCNR	400	3	\$334		X	

Table 2. List of allowable use of data approved by CMTTP participants. See Table 3 for organization codes.

Name	Organization	No additional use without permission	Present/publish any data	Present/publish my turtles recaptured elsewhere	Present/publish my recapture data of turtles tagged elsewhere
Kevin Bleck	HBSP		X		
Richie Moretti	HHMP		X	X	X
Jonathan Gorham	QURI		X		
Michael Bresette	QURI	X			
Kate Mansfield	VIMS	X			
Ross Witham	WTHM		X		
Michael Bresette	SIRL	X			
Cheryl Ryder	WHOL				
John Kerivan	CWLD				
Jerris Foote	MMLB	X			
David Addison	CINC	X			
Thane Wibbels	UNAB				
Jan Caton	JISL				
Hector Horta	PRNR				
Joanne McNeill	BOFT	X			
Larisa Avens	BOFT	X			
Ben Higgins	GALV	X			
Andre Landry	TAMU	X			
Kris Williams	SVAN			X	
Glenn Harman	CMSC		X		
George Baird	BBIO		X	X	X
Mark Thompson	SCNR		X		
Sally Hopkins-Murphy	SCNR	X			
Bruce Stender	SCNR	X			
Pearse Webster-SEAMAP	SCNR		X		
Kennard Watson	SABM				
Mark Dodd	GDNR	X			
Jonathan Aiken	CAYM				
Rebecca Bell	CITP	X			
Scott Brewer	CLMC		X	X	X
Ruth Boettcher	NCWR		X	X	X
Red Munden	NCMF		X	X	X
Carlos Diez	CULE	X			
Linda Searle	BELZ				
Sheryan Epperly	MIAM		X		
Dennis Lee	MIAM			X	
Alejandro Fallabrino	KARU	X			
Peter Pritchard	CHRI	X			
Donna Shaver	PINS	X			
Gilbert Powell	BHIC		X	X	X
Chris Johnson	JUNO	X			
Conrad Litz III	EPCT				
Mariel Labrana	MPAA				

Yolanda Leon	DMRP		X		
Mark Swingle	VMSM	X			
David Rostal	GASU		X		
Kenya Leonard	SCTY		X		
Anne Rudloe	GSML		X	X	X
Cindy Driscoll	MDNR	X			
Claudia Lombard	USVI			X	X
William Coles	USVI	X			
Trish Bargo	REMS		X		
Ray Carthy/ E. McMichael	CSBL	X			
Ray Carthy /Meg Lamont	CSBL	X			

Table 3. The 4-letter codes for the CMTTP collaborators. These codes are maintained in the database "WHOTAGGED".

ABIO:	Applied Biology, Inc.
ACEN:	US Army Corps of Engineers
ANMA:	Anna Maria Turtle Watch Group
AQAM:	Aquarium of the Americas
BAHA:	Bahamas, Ministry of Agriculture & Fish (Colin Higgs)
BBIO:	CP&L Brunswick Biology Laboratory
BCAS:	Broward County Audubon Society
BELZ:	Symbios, Belize
BHIC:	Bald Head Island Conservancy
BOFT:	NMFS Beaufort Laboratory
BUIS:	Buck Island National Monument
CAYM:	Cayman Islands Dept. of Environment
CCNS:	Cape Canaveral National Seashore
CFRA:	Cape Florida State Recreation Area
CHNS:	Cape Hatteras National Seashore
CHRI:	Chelonian Research Institute (Peter Pritchard)
CHWK:	Eddie Chadwick, <u>Mickey Anne</u>
CINC:	The Conservancy, Inc.
CINS:	Cumberland Island National Seashore
CITP:	Little Cumberland Island Turtle Project
CLMC:	Camp LeJeune Marine Corps Base
CLNS:	Cape Lookout National Seashore
CMSC:	Clearwater Marine Science Center = Clearwater Marine Aquarium
CNWR:	Culebra Island National Wildlife Refuge
CRCH:	Caretta Research (Charles LeBuff)
CMSC:	Clearwater Marine Science Center
CSBL:	Cape San Blas, Gulf Co., FL (Ray Carthy)
CULE:	Culebra Island, Puerto Rico (Carlos Diez)
CWLD:	SeaWorld of Florida
DEFW:	Delaware Fish & Wildlife
DMRP:	Dominican Republic (Yolanda Leon)
DSCM:	Discovery Center Museum
ENPK:	Everglades National Park
EPCT:	Living Seas, EPCOT
FDEP:	Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection & Florida Marine Research Institute
FDNR:	Florida Department of Natural Resources & Florida Marine Research Institute
FWCC:	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission & FMRI
FGBS:	Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary
FLPS:	Florida Park Service/ Save A Turtle
FLAQ:	Florida Aquarium, Tampa
FPCR:	Florida Power, Crystal River Energy Complex
GACB:	Golfo de Uraba, Caribbean Colombia
GALH:	Galveston Headstart Program
GALV:	NMFS Galveston Laboratory non-headstart studies
GASU:	Georgia Southern University (David Rostal)

GDNR:	Georgia Department of Natural Resources
GINS:	Gulf Islands National Seashore
GLPZ:	Gladys Porter Zoo, TX
GREF:	Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary
GSAF:	Gulf and South Atlantic Fisheries Development Foundation
GSML:	Gulf Specimen Marine Laboratory
GULF:	Gulfarium
HBSP:	Hammocks Beach State Park, NC
HHMP:	Hidden Harbor Marine Environment Project & Turtle Hospital
HIRT:	Harold Hirth - Costa Rica
HISP:	Huntington Island State Park
HSTR:	Halderman Creek Sea Turtle Research/ H.C. Fish House
INMA:	Institute of Marine Affairs
INMS:	Institute of Marine Science, Moorehead City, NC
IRLS:	Indian River Lagoon South (Michael Bresette)
JCWS:	Johnson Controls World Services
JISL:	Jekyll Island Authority, GA
JSCH:	Jeff Schmid, NMFS-Miami
JUNO:	Marinelife Center of Juno Beach
KARU:	Proyecto Karumbe, Uruguay
KWAQ:	Key West Aquarium/ Florida Marine Conservancy
LAAZ:	Louisiana Audubon Zoological Park & Gardens
LTIP:	Little Talbot Island State Park
MASS:	Massachusetts Audubon Society
MDNR:	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
MEDC:	Marine Education Ctr/Bureau of Marine Resources: Marine Life Oceanarium
MIAM:	NMFS Miami Laboratory
MLFL:	Marineland of Florida
MMLB:	Mote Marine Laboratory
MMSC:	Marine Mammal Stranding Center
MONA:	Mona Island Turtle Project, Puerto Rico (Carlos Diez)
MPAA:	Mar del Plata Aquarium, Argentina = DFFS
NAIB:	National Aquarium in Baltimore
NCAQ:	All aquariums in North Carolina
NCCE:	Wilmington (NC) District, Corps of Engineers
NCMF:	North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries
NCWR:	North Carolina Wildlife & Resources Commission
NEAQ:	New England Aquarium
NOVA:	Nova Southeastern University, Oceanographic Center
OORF:	Okeanos Ocean Research Foundation
OWFL:	OceanWorld of Florida
PANA:	Panacea Institute of Marine Science = GSML
PANC:	NMFS Panama City Laboratory
PASC:	NMFS Pascagoula Laboratory
PAUN:	Pan American University
PINS:	Padre Island National Seashore
PRNR:	Puerto Rico Department of Natural Resources
PSEG:	Public Service Electric & Gas

QURI:	Quantum Resources Inc.
REMS:	Research, Environmental & Management Support, VA
RSMS:	Rosenstiel School of Marine & Atmospheric Science (University of Miami)
SABM:	St. Andrew Bay Resource Management Association
SADV:	Sam Sadove
SANA:	Caretta Research/Sanibel Island
SCCP:	St. Croix Marine Turtle Conservation Project
SCNR:	SC Department of Natural Resources/ SC Wildlife & Marine Resources
SCTY:	Sarasota County of Natural Resources
SEAQ:	Miami Seaquarium
SERO:	NMFS Southeast Regional Office
SIRA:	Sebastian Inlet State Recreation Area
SJPP:	St. Joseph Peninsula State Park
SMEC:	J. L. Scott Marine Education Center
STPS:	Sea Turtle Preservation Society
SVAN:	Savannah Science Museum, Inc.
TOPS:	Topsail, NC
TXAM:	Texas A & M University, Institute of Marine Life Sciences
TXPW:	Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, Sea Rim State Park & USFWS
UNAB:	University of Alabama at Birmingham
UNCF:	University of Central Florida
UNCW:	University of North Carolina Wilmington
UNFL:	University of Florida
UNGA:	University of Georgia
UNKN:	Unknown datasource
UNRI:	University of Rhode Island
UNTX:	University of Texas Marine Science Institute at Austin
USVI:	U.S. Virgin Islands, Department of Wildlife
UTAH:	University of Utah
UWFL:	University of West Florida
VATC:	Virginia Polytechnic Institute
VIMS:	Virginia Institute of Marine Science
VMSM:	Virginia Marine Science Museum
WHOL:	NMFS/NEFC Woods Hole Laboratory
WTHM:	Ross Witham Headstart (FDNR) Program
WWDL:	World Wildlife Fund